

Election:

Applicant confirms the election made by phone with the Examiner on November 8, 2005 of claims 1-13 of Group I. This election is without traverse.

Remarks:

The Examiner has rejected all of the elected claims to an inductive element for an ICP source under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Keller et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,650,032, which discloses a Faraday shield. The Examiner notes that a claim containing a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus if the prior art apparatus teaches all the structural limitations of the claim. Applicant has added language to the claims, particularly the independent claims, that recite structural limitations distinguishing the claimed subject matter from the reference, Keller et al.

In particular, applicant's combination of the structural features claimed in claim 1, which is to an inductive, electrical-circuit element for an ICP, is not found in the Faraday shields of Keller et al. In particular, the claim recites "a conductor formed of a sheet of electrically conductive material having a pair of ends and formed into at least one loop having shaped edges defining a plurality of segments including segments from each of a plurality of differing width and cross-sectional geometries." Further, a pair of RF connector terminals are fixed to the respective ends of the electrically conductive material. This distinguishes the subject matter of amended claim 1 from a Faraday shield based on the structural details alone, defining an inductive circuit element and not a Faraday shield.

The inductive circuit element of amended claim 1 is novel and patentable over other inductive circuit elements of the prior art in that it has a conductor that is made of a sheet of electrically conductive material formed into a loop having shaped edges defining a plurality of segments including segments from each of a plurality of differing width and cross-sectional geometries. The shaped edges of the conductor are configured to define alternating segments of the differing geometries around an axis of the element.

Application No. 10/766,505
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Reply to Office Action of November 16, 2005

Likewise, claim 25 claims an electrical-circuit inductor, which is also distinguished from the Faraday shield in that it recites a conductor formed of a sheet of electrically conductive material having a gap extending between the opposite edges that defines a pair of terminal ends, with a pair of RF connectors, one fixed to each of the terminal ends. The claimed inductor further is patentably distinct from other electrical-circuit inductors in that it provides a plurality of cutouts alternately spaced in the opposite edges defining a serpentine conductive path between the terminal ends formed of a series of segments of alternating high and low cross-sections and widths.

Applicant submits that an information disclosure statement dated 19 July 2005 was **not** filed by Applicant and that the information disclosure statement has been entered in the current application in error by the Patent Office. Please remove the information disclosure statement dated 19 July 2005 (dated 21 July 2005 in PAIR) from the file history of the current application.

For the reasons stated above, it is submitted that the claims, as amended, are not anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,650,032 to Keller et al., and are patentable. Accordingly, an early allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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